

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Rhoads et al.

Serial No.: 10/002,954

Filed: October 23, 2001

Examiner: A. Blackman

Date: March 3, 2004

For: USING EMBEDDED

STEGANOGRAPHIC IDENTIFIERS IN SEGMENTED AREAS OF GEOGRAPHIC

IMAGES AND CHARACTERISTICS

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Art Unit: 2676

Confirmation No.: 4464

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on March 3, 2004, as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

Steven W. Stewart Attorney for Applicant RECEIVED

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicants submit herewith information of which they are aware, and which they believe may be material to the examination of the application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. The information is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

This information disclosure statement is being filed after the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits and <u>before</u> the first mailing date of Final Office Action (37 C.F.R. § 1.113), or Notice of Allowance (37 C.F.R. § 1.311).

The submission of information on the attached Form PTO-1449 is not intended as an admission that any such information constitutes prior art against the claims of the application under examination. Applicants do not waive any right to take any appropriate action to antedate or otherwise remove any information from the attached Form PTO-1449.

Please charge the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) and any additional fees or credit any over-payment in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 50-1071.

Date: March 3, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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